

and lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations.” At that moment, it was as if Lincoln had stretched out his long arms to gather up the people from every region and every corner of the country to make our Nation whole, to shepherd it beyond the war and move it forward. Only one month later, he was gone, his life taken on Good Friday, 1865.

Lincoln’s legacy has touched us all down through the ages. Few now remember that he signed the homestead law giving 160 acres of land to pioneer families in search of better lives. A son of a frontier family himself, he signed a law to create land-grant colleges, which have educated America’s sons and daughters ever since. Lincoln’s work allowed people from ordinary backgrounds like his own to rise in life and accomplish extraordinary things. Today that work goes on. Our job here is to build up and strengthen the great American middle class, to give opportunity to all, to help our communities rid themselves from crime and drugs, to help families protect themselves from bankruptcy due to spiraling health care costs, to move people away from lifetime welfare toward full-time work, and to allow everyone who works hard

to get ahead and compete and win in the new global economy.

Still the question recurs, can we do better?—just as Lincoln asked us when he said, “The dogmas of the quiet past are inadequate to the stormy present. The occasion is piled high with difficulty, and we must rise with the occasion. As our case is new, so we must think anew and act anew.”

“Fellow-citizens, *we* can not escape history,” he said. “We . . . will be remembered in spite of ourselves. No personal significance or insignificance can spare one or another of us. . . . We, even *we here*, hold the power and bear the responsibility. . . . We shall nobly save or meanly lose the last best hope of Earth. Other means may succeed; this could not fail. The way is plain, peaceful, generous, just—a way which if followed the world will forever applaud and God must forever bless.” Those words from Abraham Lincoln should guide our path today.

Thanks for listening, and may God bless us all.

NOTE: The President spoke at 10:06 a.m. from the Oval Office at the White House.

Statement on the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program February 12, 1994

In accordance with the provisions of Public Law 103–112, the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1994, I am making available an appropriation of \$200 million in budget authority for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. I designate the entire amount made available as an Emer-

gency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(D)(i) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON

The White House,
February 12, 1994.

Statement by the Press Secretary on the Military Offensive in Sudan February 12, 1994

The administration condemns the new military offensive by the armed forces of the Government of Sudan on populations in the south. These outrageous attacks on civilian and military targets demonstrate a callous lack of concern

for the lives of innocent Sudanese and a disregard for efforts to promote peace. This offensive will only increase the suffering of the Sudanese people, create thousands of new refugees,